

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----115775 260046Z /73

O 260039Z AUG 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3002
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03322

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SW
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: MCHENRY TALKS WITH GENERAL HANNES
PHILIPP

1. AMB MCHENRY MET PRIVATELY WITH AHTISAARI'S MILITARY
AIDE, GENERAL HANNES PHILIPP AT 0800 AUGUST 25.
PHILIPP DISCUSSED UNTAG AND A NUMBER OF RELATED
SUBJECTS:

A. KATIMA MULILO SHELLING: PHILIPP TOLD MCHENRY
THAT SADF NAMIBIA COMMANDER GELDENHUYS HAD TOLD HIM
12 HOURS BEFORE THE FACT OF THE IMPENDING SWAPO ATTACK
AND HAD WARNED HIM THAT THE SADF WOULD HAVE TO RESPOND
TO IT.

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B. CEASE FIRE PROVISIONS: PHILIPP THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE
21 DAYS TO IMPLEMENT A CEASE FIRE IN NAMIBIA ONCE THE
CEASE FIRE HAD RECEIVED POLITICAL APPROVAL. HIS POINT
WAS THAT RUSHING UNTAG MONITORING OFFICERS IMMEDIATELY
INTO THE FIELD WOULD MEAN THAT INITIALLY THEY WOULD
BE TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON SADF FOR PROTECTION AND SUPPORT
AND THUS WERE LIKELY TO GET A SKEWED PICTURE. PHILIPP

SAID THAT UNTAG MONITORING COULD NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL EMPLACEMENT OF MONITORS WITH REPEAT WITH THEIR OWN SUPPORT; THIS PROCESS WOULD TAKE 21 DAYS. HE DID ENVISION THE USE OF OFFICER MONITORS IN CONNECTION WITH DISMANTLEMENT OF COMMANDOS AND CITIZEN FORCES.

C. UNTAG TROOP STRENGTHS: PHILIPP SAID THAT HE PLANNED TO RECOMMEND THAT UNTAG DEPLOY SEVEN BATTALIONS; THREE OF THESE BATTALIONS WOULD BE STATIONED IN OVAMBOLAND, ONE IN KAVANGOLAND, ONE IN CAPRIVI, ONE WOULD BE STATIONED IN THE SOUTH, (KEETAMANSHOOP) PRIMARILY TO MONITOR THE DEPARTURE OF THE SADF, AND ONE IN RESERVE IN WINDHOEK. PHILIPP HOPED THAT THE FIRST UNTAG BATTALION INTO THE FIELD WOULD BE THE FINNS.

D. ETHNIC FORCES: PHILIPP SAW THIS AS A REAL PROBLEM. IF THE ETHNIC FORCES WERE DISBANDED HE WAS CERTAIN THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS WOULD SOMEHOW KEEP THEM GOING SURREPTITIOUSLY AND THAT THEY COULD BECOME SOURCES OF POLITICAL DISSIDENCE. PHILIPP PERSONALLY WOULD PREFER TO PUT THE ETHNIC FORCES UNDER UN COMMAND AS THE BEST MEANS OF NEUTRALIZING THEM -- AND TO POSTPONE THE DECISION ON THEIR ULTIMATE STATUS. MCHENRY TOLD PHILIPP THAT ANY SUGGESTION NOT TO DISBAND THE FORCES WAS POLITICAL DYNAMITE. CERTAINLY IT SHOULD NOT BE RAISED AS A POLITICAL ISSUE AND CERTAINLY THE TREATMENT

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OF THIS ISSUE IN THE WESTERN PROPOSAL SHOULD BE CONTROLLING. PERHAPS IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO IMMEDIATELY PLACE THE ETHNIC FORCES UNDER UN COMMAND AND LEAVE FURTHER DISPOSITION TO LATER.

E. SADF CIVILIAN FUNCTIONS: PHILIPP REMARKED ON THE GREAT NUMBER OF SADF PERSONNEL PERFORMING ESSENTIAL CIVILIAN JOBS AND NOTED THAT THE UN WOULD HAVE TO UNDERTAKE THESE JOBS AS WELL IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE COLLAPSE OF THOSE ESSENTIAL SERVICES NOW SUSTAINED BY THE SADF. THE UN WOULD HAVE TO MAKE BUDGETARY ALLOWANCES FOR THIS ASPECT.

F. MONITORING SWAPO: PHILIPP WONDERED OUT LOUD HOW UNTAG WOULD BE ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY MONITOR SWAPO. MCHENRY RECOUNTED TO HIM THE HISTORY OF THE WESTERN PROPOSALS ON THIS POINT AND DREW ATTENTION TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING UNTAG LIAISON OFFICERS IN ANGOLA AND ZAMBIA. HE SUGGESTED THAT PHILIPP WOULD WANT TO TALK WITH THE ANGOLANS AND ZAMBIANS ON THIS POINT.

G. PHILIPP NOTED THAT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE HE
WOULD WISH TO CONTRACT FOR SERVICES. AT ONE POINT HE
NOTED THAT SOUTH AFRICANS DISLIKED THE UN BUT SOUTH
AFRICA AND OTHER COUNTRY CONTRACTORS WOULD BE CONTROLLED
BY THEIR "LOVE FOR THE RAND OR DOLLAR".

H. GENERAL: AS HAD AHTISAARI THE EVENING BEFORE,
PHILIPP EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH THE COOPERATION HE

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 03322

EXDIS

RECEIVED FROM SOUTH AFRICA AND FRUSTRATION WITH THE
LACK OF COOPERATION FROM SWAPO.

2. MCHENRY BRIEFED CONTACT GROUP ON HIS DISCUSSION WITH
PHILIPP AT 10:30 AUGUST 25. YOUNGS

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Message Attributes

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TAGS: PORG, PDIP, SW, (MCHENRY, DONALD), (PHILIPP, HANNES)
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